

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the third paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

A melt of the desired composition is produced at first which may comprise a mixture of SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , and Li_2O with the addition of TiO_2 or ZrO_2 . Thereafter ~~said~~ the melt is rapidly cooled to room temperature under avoidance of the precipitation of crystallites or their precursors and thus the starting glass is obtained.

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The starting glass is thereafter heated to a temperature in the nucleation range above the glass transformation temperature T_G . The temperature range is designated as the nucleation range in which the precipitation of the nuclei of crystallization occurs, with the number of nuclei depending on the chosen temperature and the chosen residence time at this temperature. In UK 1 383 201 the nuclei are produced in a heterogeneous way by the precipitation of TiO_2 or ZrO_2 .

Please replace the fifth paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Thereafter the green glass modified by the formation of nuclei is further heated to a temperature in the crystallization range. The temperature range is designated as the crystallization range in which an epitaxial growth of a crystal phase occurs on the aforementioned nuclei. Although the formation of ~~said~~ the crystals generally occurs to a substantial extent already during the heating to said temperature, the residence time at this temperature still has a substantial influence on the properties of the originating glass-ceramics. In the example according to UK 1 383 201 the crystal phase concerns β -eucryptite LiAlSiO_4 .